



Powerboat Pre-Departure Checklist

Know your boat. Before each departure, always be sure your boat is in good working condition, is properly equipped for emergencies, and that passengers are properly briefed. Avoid inconvenience and potential danger by taking a few minutes before departure to check the following:

- ☐ Lifejackets for each person (proper size and fit, worn, fastened)
- ☐ Throw-able type IV flotation device, with floating line, attached to boat
- ☐ Fire extinguisher(s) fully charged, mounted securely
- ☐ Sound producing device(s) (air horn, whistle, bell)
- ☐ USCG approved visual distress signals (with current dates)
- ☐ Navigation lights
- ☐ Boat registration (properly displayed, certificate onboard)
- ☐ Proper ventilation, backfire flame arrestors installed (inboards)
- ☐ Drain plugs installed/sea cocks closed
- ☐ Marine VHF radio(s) and other equipment tested
- ☐ Fuel & oil sufficient for trip -1/3 Out, 1/3 Return, 1/3 Reserve
- ☐ Vessel loaded properly and all items secured from shifting
- ☐ Battery fully charged, secured, terminals clean and covered
- ☐ Bilge pump and backup manual bailing device(s) functional
- ☐ Tools/parts (spare batteries, fuses, spark plugs, belts, prop, prop nut kit)
- ☐ Anchors (2), each with own chain and line, one attached to boat
- ☐ Auxiliary propulsion (spare engine, sail, paddle, oars)
- ☐ Spare food, drinking water, clothing, shelter (tent or tarp)
- ☐ First aid and survival kits
- ☐ Navigation tools – GPS, compass, charts, maps, tide book
- ☐ Weather and sea conditions (forecast and observation)
- ☐ Float plan prepared, given to responsible party
- ☐ Passenger briefing – stability rules, proper clothing, float plan details, location of and how to use emergency equipment, how to start, stop and steer the boat, handling emergencies

Boat Smart From the Start!
WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET

www.alaskaboatingsafety.org